

Remarks

Claims 1-12 were pending.

Claim 1 is cancelled.

Claims 2, 8 and 12 are amended.

Claim 3 is original.

Claims 9 and 11 are withdrawn.

The application now contains claims 2-12.

Claim 2 is amended to incorporate the language of now cancelled claim 1 from which claim 2 had depended. Claim 2 is also amended to remove multiple ranges.

Claim 8, withdrawn by the Examiner, is amended to change the dependency from now cancelled claim 1 to claim 2.

Claim 12, withdrawn by the Examiner, is amended to remove multiple ranges.

Support is found in the original claims.

No new matter is added.

Rejections

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Hendi, US 5,786,487.

Claim 1 is also rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Mizuguchi, US 5,808,094.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Claim 1 is cancelled and neither Hendi nor Mizuguchi disclose the host compounds of formula I or the guest compounds of formula II of the instant claims. Applicants, therefore kindly ask that the rejections under 35 USC 102(b) over Hendi, US 5,786,487 and the rejections under 35 USC 102(b) over Mizuguchi, US 5,808,094 be withdrawn.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Eldin, US 5,919,944.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Eldin discloses polymerizable DPP compounds and polymers derived from them. To demonstrate overlap in the DPPs of the two inventions the Examiner points to a compound of Eldin wherein R_1 and R_2 are $-Y-X-Z-Q$ wherein X is aryl, Z is a single bond and Q is C1-6 alkyl. Applicants respectfully point to an error in the Examiner's analysis. Eldin does not allow Q to be C1-6 alkyl, rather examination of Column 1, lines 60-61 of Eldin allows the group R_6 to be hydrogen or C1-6 alkyl, with R_6 being part of a group $-\text{CONHR}_6$, $-\text{COOR}_6$ or $-\text{COR}_6$.

Whereas R_2 of Eldin can be a simple alkyl or alkyl substituted aromatic, R_1 can not. Applicants therefore maintain that there is no overlap between the compounds of Eldin and the host compounds of formula I or the guest compounds of formula II of the instant claims.

Eldin also discloses mixtures of DPPs, but these mixtures are intended to produce polymeric colorants and do not generate the host / guest complex of the instant invention.

Applicants, therefore kindly ask that the rejections of claims 2-5 under 35 USC 102(b) over Eldin, US 5,919,944 be withdrawn.

Claims 6, 7 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Eldin, US 5,919,944.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Applicants respectfully refer to the above discussion in asserting that Eldin does not teach compounds of the instant invention as the group Q is not C1-6 alkyl.

Applicants also respectfully suggest that an important feature of Eldin is that the DPPs are reactable and must contain reactable functionality on at least R_1 ; therefore Q must contain a reactable group and not be simply alkyl.

Applicants respectfully assert that the mixtures of Eldin do not contain the components of the instant host guest complex. Applicants further note that these mixtures are for the purpose of preparing polymeric DPPs which is unrelated to the instant invention.

Applicants also wish to point out that host / guest complexes are specific entities with specific properties. These are complexes wherein the guest compound absorbs the energy of the host compound due overlap between the emission spectra of the host and the absorption spectra of the guest. The host and guest must therefore be physically associated with each other in a manner that allows this process to occur. In other words, they must be quite close.

The instant invention provides combinations of DPP compounds that are novel and are identified as host compounds and guest compounds with the characteristics described. It is not apparent to Applicants whether the polymers of Eldin, or the pre-polymeric mixtures of Eldin, meet these requirements nor is there any suggestion in Eldin that host / guest complexes can be prepared from these polymers or mixtures.

As the DPPs of Eldin are not the DPPs of the instant invention and there is no suggestion that the DPP mixtures of Eldin are suitable as host / guest materials as in the instant invention, Applicants kindly ask that the rejections of claims 6, 7 and 10 under 35 USC 103(a) over Eldin, US 5,919,944 be withdrawn.

In light of the above amendments and discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the host / guest compositions of the instant invention are novel and non-obvious. Applicants therefore kindly ask that the Examiner reconsider the withdrawal of claims 8, 9, 11 and 12, and upon finding the claims 2-7 and 10 allowable, also rejoin and find claims 8, 9, 11 and 12.

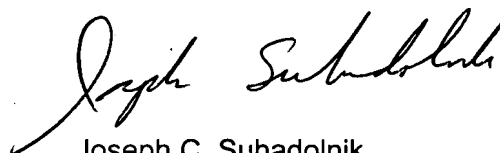
In particular, Applicants note that the host / guest complexes of the instant invention are ideally suited for use in electro luminescent (EL) devices. As noted on page 4, lines 30-34 of the specification, "luminescent devices, which are high in the efficiency of electrical energy utilisation and high in luminance, can be obtained if specific combinations of DPP compounds are used as light emitting substances". It is the emission from the excited state rather than the color of the ground state that makes the novel DPP combinations of the instant invention so valuable.

Applicants respectfully submit, in light of the amendments and discussion above, that all rejections have been addressed and overcome and kindly ask that they be withdrawn and claims 2-7 and 10 be found allowable.

Applicants further kindly ask that claims 8, 9, 11 and 12 be rejoined and also found allowable. Should the Examiner be inclined to rejoin only a portion of the claims, Applicants respectfully point to the discussion involving the ideal suitability of the instant compositions for the EL devices of claims 8 and 9.

In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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